

interim adjudicatory rules, by which a claimant can take advantage of a presumption of total disability or death due to pneumoconiosis arising out of coal mine employment.

§ 727.201 Persons entitled to benefits, dependents.

Benefits are provided under the Act to a miner who is totally disabled due to pneumoconiosis and to certain survivors of a miner who died due to or while totally (or in certain cases, partially) disabled by pneumoconiosis. The amount of benefits payable to a miner or survivor may be increased on account of certain dependents. For the purpose of determining whether a claimant is a miner or qualified survivor of a miner or a qualified dependent of a miner or survivor under this part, the provisions of part 725 of this subchapter shall be applicable as appropriate.

§ 727.202 Definition of pneumoconiosis.

For the purposes of the act, *pneumoconiosis* means a chronic dust disease of the lung and its sequelae, including respiratory and pulmonary impairments, arising out of coal mine employment. This definition includes, but is not limited to, coal workers' pneumoconiosis, anthracosilicosis, anthracosisanthro-silicosis, massive pulmonary fibrosis, progressive massive fibrosis silicosis, or silicotuberculosis arising out of coal mine employment. For purposes of this definition, a disease "arising out of coal mine employment" includes any chronic pulmonary disease resulting in respiratory or pulmonary impairment significantly related to, or aggravated by, dust exposure in coal mine employment.

§ 727.203 Interim presumption.

(a) *Establishing interim presumption.* A miner who engaged in coal mine employment for at least 10 years will be presumed to be totally disabled due to pneumoconiosis, or to have been totally disabled due to pneumoconiosis at the time of death, or death will be presumed to be due to pneumoconiosis, arising out of that employment, if one

of the following medical requirements is met:

(1) A chest roentgenogram (X-ray), biopsy, or autopsy establishes the existence of pneumoconiosis (see § 410.428 of this title);

(2) Ventilatory studies establish the presence of a chronic respiratory or pulmonary disease (which meets the requirements for duration in § 410.412(a)(2) of this title) as demonstrated by values which are equal to or less than the values specified in the following table:

	Equal to or less than—	
	FEV ₁	MVV
67" or less	2.3	92
68"	2.4	96
69"	2.4	96
70"	2.5	100
71"	2.6	104
72"	2.6	104
73" or more	2.7	108

(3) Blood gas studies which demonstrate the presence of an impairment in the transfer of oxygen from the lung alveoli to the blood as indicated by values which are equal to or less than the values specified in the following table:

Arterial pO ₂	Arterial pCO ₂ equal to or less than (mm. Hg.)
30 or below	70.
31	69.
32	68.
33	67.
34	66.
35	65.
36	64.
37	63.
38	62.
39	61.
40-45	60.
Above 45	Any value.

(4) Other medical evidence, including the documented opinion of a physician exercising reasoned medical judgment, establishes the presence of a totally disabling respiratory or pulmonary impairment;

(5) In the case of a deceased miner where no medical evidence is available, the affidavit of the survivor of such miner or other persons with knowledge